

## **REPORT OF THE CAREGIVERS OF THE WOLFEBORO AREA**

Caregivers of the Wolfeboro Area was started in 1987 when the outreach programs of All Saints Church and the First Congregational Church in Wolfeboro decided to combine their efforts to help members of the community. The area served by Huggins Hospital and the VNA/Hospice were selected as appropriate for consideration since health and medical needs were the most apparent. Thus the title of Caregivers of the Wolfeboro Area was selected and includes Alton, Ossipee, Wakefield, Tuftonboro as well as Wolfeboro.

Several services were originally offered, such as transportation friendly visiting, respite, and chores. It became immediately apparent that transportation was the greatest need. There is no public transportation in the area and taxis are very expensive, if even available.

Since we are an all-volunteer organization, expenses are minimal. The greatest being for mileage reimbursement is for volunteers who request it. With the cost of gasoline, more people are asking for reimbursement. Recently we have paid out about \$600.00 each month agency wide for this. Funding for this expenditure is provided by grateful clients and some churches.

The figures for Alton are stunning, so far in 2005 - 415 hours, have been spent by Alton volunteers serving Alton residents and 7628 miles have been traveled doing this. In 2004, total hours were 604 and 10,546 miles. These are trips to Laconia, Dover, Rochester, and Wolfeboro for doctor appointments, lab and rehab appointments, cancer treatments, etc.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley A. Bentley  
Coordinator